

The (2019-20) CALL board of directors is as follows:

President	Ron Foyer	Programs	Diana Bloom
Past President	Karen Sharp	Operations	Carrol Jacques
Vice President	Lorraine Smith	Venues	Robert Scott
Secretary	Connie Langley	Governance	Barbara Murray
Treasurer	Rita McGillivray	Records Management	Mary Vernon
Information and Technology		Linda Flanagan	
Communications & Public Relations		Gail Kingwell	
Social and Fund Development		Patricia Oxendale	
Volunteers & Membership		Marika Kohut (& Meryl Arnott)	
Special Programming		Mary Lou Kerr	

Brief biographies are provided below.

Ron Foyer, President

Ron Foyer has been an enthusiastic member of CALL for about seven years. He has participated in book clubs and happy aging groups as well as attending short-term education programs on geology. He is currently a co-facilitator of the Current Affairs Discussion group and a member of the CALL to the Theatre group.

Ron has been the Chair of the Committee responsible for IT and Audio-Visual activities for nearly four years, and, as such, has been on the CALL Board for that time.

He has been retired for 13 years from a career mainly based on the use of Information technology (IT).

He has had leadership positions in the non-profit Canadian Information Processing Society and Toastmasters International organizations. He has done much volunteering with the Mustard Seed and Westwood Minor Hockey.

He is proud to be able to help CALL grow and be successful since he thinks it is a truly wonderful organization.

Karen Sharp, Past-President

Karen joined the Board as Vice President of CALL in 2017 and also compiled results from the 2017 members' survey. Karen's career has covered 35 years in forecasting, strategy, governance, risk and regulation. She brings a background in economics, strategy and corporate finance, as well as a PhD in Management (Finance). Karen has also done considerable pro bono work consulting to non-profit organizations, and she is an experienced non-profit Board member.

Since joining CALL, she has sampled a wide range of learning: philosophy, digital photography, writing a novel interest groups, as well as the speaker series, especially those of history and

Latin America. Karen is a keen hiker, gardener and grandmother.

Lorraine Smith, Vice-President

Lorraine was a teacher with the Calgary Board of Education for 39 years. Beginning in physical education and athletics, she then moved to the science department and enjoyed a long stay at Western Canada High School. Upon retiring in June 2017, Lorraine began volunteer endeavors (including at Agape Hospice and the Calgary Children's Cottage) and enrolled in ukulele (at Kerby Center) and a philosophy group with CALL. She is also an avid hiker and walker of her dog. Her other interests include traveling, reading and keenly following many sport activities.

Lorraine has previously served on boards in both community and church contexts and looks forward to the challenges of continuing to learn and serve on the board of CALL.

Connie Langley, Secretary.

I was born, bred and educated in Hong Kong (a British Colony in my time). I met and married my Canadian Regina, Saskatchewan-born husband of 40 years.

My colourful/interesting careers included:

- Tour Coordinator guiding tourist groups from HK to around the world.
- Sales manager in 2 world's best hotels, the Peninsula and The Mandarin
- A Chinese cooking instructor in London, England and in Tokyo, Japan.
- A Women's Auxiliary member and Board member based in the Sick Kids Hospital in Toronto for 10 years, volunteering in the Cancer Ward, Interpreting Dept., and in all the outpatients clinics.
- Medical secretary to a Dermatologist 5 year and an ENT/Surgeon 5 year.
- An active volunteer in Woodgreen Community Services for 10 years in their after school programs, interpreter services and seniors visiting services.
- A member, Board member and volunteer in Later Life Learning (LLL), Toronto for 10 years.

My hobbies and interests are extensive and I love to learn. I found CALL since my move here from TO about a year ago. I have recently become President of my Condo Board. I am looking forward to a long and meaningful relationships with this valuable group.

Rita McGillivray, Treasurer and Chair, Finance Committee

I spent my entire working career of 35 years in Calgary's energy industry, working as a manager in a variety of roles primarily with Nova Gas Transmission, TransCanada Pipelines, Enerflex and Enmax.

I have a professional accounting designation and a graduate degree in Business Administration, but I have been fully retired for ten years. During my career I raised three children and have many years of volunteer experience. I have served for more than ten years on a variety of non-profit boards as either treasurer or president, including Volunteer Calgary (now Propellus) and Servants Anonymous (now Reset Society).

Since retiring I have become very dedicated to studying music theory and learning to play the flute, including being a member of two chamber groups at Mount Royal Conservatory. I am a novice bridge enthusiast, Spanish language learner, and my husband Rolf and I enjoy travelling around the world hiking and long distance motorcycle touring. We enjoy our grandchildren living nearby in Calgary and we are not snowbirds because we love to ski. This will be my second year on the Board.

Diana Bloom, Chair, Program Committee

Diana has been a devoted lifelong learner since before she heard the term. She originally graduated from the University of Calgary and Queen's University with a BA (Hons.) and Masters Degree in Sociology.

She has worked in the voluntary sector (United Way, Multiple Sclerosis Society) but the majority of her career was spent in research, planning and management with the Calgary Police Service. During her career Diana earned a certificate in Management Development from U. of C. and successfully completed the "Leading for Excellence" program for senior managers at the City of Calgary.

While working, Diana took numerous recreational courses in art including painting, drawing, interior design and photography. Since her retirement Diana has completed a Bachelor of Fine Art (with Distinction) degree from the Alberta College of Art. Diana's first volunteer role with CALL was in assisting to develop the current Strategic Plan. Presently, she is a member of the CALL Sketch Club group and the Lead Coordinator for the Creative Arts Interest Groups. This is her first year on the Board.

Carrol Jacques, Chair, Operations Committee

Carrol Jaques is a former teacher with a passion for history and politics. She taught high school in Edmonton and then in the Adult Education Program with the Calgary Board of Education.

Her interest in the history of Alberta's agricultural and political organizations – particularly the United Farmers of Alberta government (1921 to 1935) – led to a master's thesis on the UFA and then a book on a successor group, Unifarm, published by the University of Calgary Press.

Carrol also contributed a chapter on former Alberta Liberal Premier Charles Stewart to the book "Alberta Premiers of the Twentieth Century." Carrol served on the board and then as president of Chinook Country Historical Society.

She is also an avid hiker and served on the Board of Alberta TrailNet. Carrol joined CALL a few years ago but has become more active in the last two years, leading to a decision to get even more involved – hence the decision to join, and then Chair, the Operations Committee.

Linda Flanagan, Chair, Information and Technology Committee

Linda lived in five provinces from Newfoundland to BC before settling in Calgary where she earned a BA and B.Ed. at the University of Calgary.

Following several years working at the U of C Library, Linda went on to enjoy a fulfilling career in public education as a teacher, district accountability specialist and Principal. Her interest in technology was enhanced by completing a Master's degree in Educational Technology.

Since retiring Linda has been a consultant for the CBE in system improvement and program evaluation, and with Alberta Education as a member of the provincial Attendance Board. She is lucky enough to spend many happy times at the family cabin with her husband, children and four grandchildren, who are always a source of inspiration, energy and fun.

She has loved participating in several CALL groups in areas of ongoing interest, including film, philosophy and literature. Serving on the IT committee has been another wonderful opportunity for learning in an area she loves!

Pattie Oxendale, Chair, Social and Fund Development Committee

Pattie retired from CBC in 2008 and was invited by Don Smith to CALL, a few years later. She has been an active volunteer with many organizations since retirement. Pattie attended an early CALL Gala, learned we needed volunteers, especially a person who would make coffee and serve on the Social Committee. Thus began her term on the Social Committee assisting at all the CALL Café's and special events. Pattie is also an active member of the Needlecraft group, joined Genealogy, Digital Photography, Scrabble and Word Freaks, which she facilitates at cSPACE.

Robert Scott, Chair, Venue Committee

Robert is a retired architect. He has a master's degree in Architecture from the U of C and taught in the Architectural Technologies Program at SAIT Polytechnic for 17 years. Prior to that his practice included commercial, institutional as well as residential architecture. He was also the past chair of the Land Use and Planning Committee for the Killarney Glengarry community association.

After joining CALL 3 years ago he has participated in a number of interest groups as well as the helping with planning the move to cSPACE. At the moment he is also trying to learn how to play the Bagpipes. Robert joined the CALL Board in 2016.

Barbara Murray, Chair, Governance Committee

I am a retired lawyer with 35 years of experience in the commercial real estate industry. I have previously served on a number of not for profit boards including Woods Homes and Vertigo Theatre.

I have been involved with CALL for a number of years, including as a member of the cSpace Committee, then on the Board as a Member at Large, Chair of the Organizational Structures Committee, President and Past President. This will be my fifth year on the Board.

I have always enjoyed learning new things and am currently learning to paint in watercolours and to speak Spanish. My husband and I enjoy travel and have visited all seven continents.

Mary Vernon, Chair, Records Management Committee

I am fairly newly retired again for the second time with my last 10 year venture being a women's clothing and accessory wholesale and retail business operating under the name of Kobieta World Designs.

Prior to that, from an employment point of view, I was involved in the sales and marketing of a professional sales training business where I was also a trainer and motivational speaker. There have been numerous other ventures along the way so overall I would suggest that I have been an entrepreneur for a very good portion of my working life.

I have also served on numerous Boards as well as having been active in a major women's organization for almost 50 years where I have served at all levels of the Executives at both the chapter and city wide levels as well as on countless committees organizing both small and major functions.

I am an avid traveler having travelled all over the world for many years which also included living in Pakistan for a year. Future travel is also high on my bucket list. My latest pursuits include being a 7 year volunteer with PALS (the Pet Access League) with my little dog Lucy. She and I also volunteer once a week at a local Hospice.

I am now also looking at creating a whole new variety of interests to take me through the next steps of my life and retirement and trusting CALL to continue to be a wonderful source in doing just that. I am looking forward to also serving on the Board of CALL as service and giving back are all high priorities in my life.

Gail Kingwell, Chair, Communications and Public Relations

Gail is a former teacher and administrator with the Calgary Board of Education, university instructor of English as a Second Language teaching and learning, and consultant in educational projects and curriculum development. She has been active in CALL for a number of years, serving on the Board and producing the CALL Newsletter.

Marika Kohut, Chair, Membership and Volunteer Committee

Marika started her career in banking in Montreal in the early 70's as a Loans Officer. She was one of the first women hired to that position with the Royal Bank. After going through the Accelerated Management Training Program Marika became Senior Loans Officer, Personal Lending, Mortgages and Small Commercial Loans in Montreal. Later, after a move to Ontario, Marika was vice president of an Olympic Qualified Gymnastics club. She was also involved with the Red Cross, the Canadian Cancer Society and the Lions Club. Marika was named Woman of the Year Award in Oakville in 1986 for her volunteering.

In 1990 a work-related transfer took the family to Kelowna where Marika fulfilled a life dream of opening a bookstore and a seasonally operated 6000 sq. ft facility of discounted books. Later in Abbotsford, she volunteered with the Abbotsford Hospice Society and was subsequently hired as Volunteer Coordinator. She also facilitated a Caregiver Support Group with the BC Cancer Agency. A move to Victoria in 2000 brought contract employment with Business Victoria

as part of a team giving workshops on Entrepreneurship for EI recipients. In 2005 she joined the Canadian Cancer Society as Support Coordinator where she was responsible for the volunteer needs for 8 Regional units from Port Hardy to Victoria. Marika retired at the end of 2009. This will be Marika's second term on the CALL Board.

Mary Lou Kerr, Chair Special Programming

Mary Lou is a retired teacher who ran one of the Calgary Board of Education's reading clinics for students with literacy challenges and worked as a teacher/librarian. This was followed by many years of rewarding work as a consultant in Special Education. It involved teaming with teachers, parents and agencies to better meet the needs of children with cognitive and physical challenges.

She is enjoying her retirement: exploring new interests, making new friends, time with her granddaughter, traveling and, of course, participating in CALL as a volunteer and taking the most interesting programs. Mary Lou served for 2 years as co-chair of the Program Committee and 2 years as a board member. She also was a coordinator on the Program Committee for a number of years.